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Title: Regarding need to provide relief and compensation to the farmers whose crops were damaged due to heavy rains in November, 2004 in Chidambaram Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY (CHIDAMBARAM): There was a heavy rain in the state of Tamil Nadu during the rainy season last year in October-November, 2004 resulting in the flood in my constituency, Chidambaram, causing irrepairable loss to standing paddy crops in thousand hectares of land. Before district Administration came to the grips of reality of loss by floods, a totally unprecedented natural calamity, Tsunami, hit the whole of Tamil Nadu particularly, the districts of Nagapattinam, Cuddalore, Kanayakumari and other coastal districts of Tamil Nadu. Farmers at Cuddalore and Chidambaram have lost hectares of crops and the land became saline and barren. The District Administration have considered the claims of fishermen-folk but have not recognised woes and worries of farmers who have lost every bit of land which has become unsuitable for cultivation. I have appealed to the Government of Tamil Nadu and District Administration to take into account the lost of crops of farmers both at the time of floods and tsunami.

I request the Central Government to expedite the relief measures to the flood and tsunami hit farmers.